

1 Interview Summaries

1.1 Department of Education

Interview Type Telephone, Indian Nation
Interview Location
Interview Date November 29, 2001
Summary Date November 30, 2001
Interviewer CDM / Michelle Thaler (thalerma@cdm.com)
Interviewed: John Banks, Director of Natural Resources
(jbanks@penobscotnation.org) (207) 827-1649 x 130
Binke Wang, GIS Coordinator (207) 827-1649 x 160
Staff Size (approx) 1 full time GIS staff
Budget (approx) no information given
URL: <http://www.penobscotnation.org/>

1.1.1 Overview

Penobscot Indian Nation lands border the town of Carrabassett Valley. The nation has security concerns. There is some data that the nation does not wish to share with the public or with state agencies.

1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

1.1.2.1 Overview of GIS Utilization

The Penobscot Indian Nation has a GIS lab and a GIS coordinator. This GIS lab develops and maintains data using GPS. GIS is used primarily for natural resource protection and forest management. The Penobscot Indian Nation is involved in the Intertribal GIS Council, a national Indian tribal organization of tribes with interest in using GIS. The Penobscot nation is serving as a model of tribal GIS use and is working with other Indian nations to mentor them.

1.1.2.2 GIS Operating Environment and Infrastructure

- 1 copy of ArcView 3.2
- 1 Copy of ArcInfo 8.01
- 1 license of 8.1 but have not yet installed
- 1 machine running Windows 2000 on a peer-to-peer network
- Internet access is via DSL line

1.1.2.3 GIS Data Resources and Requirements

1.1.2.3.1 Spatial Data

- Sewall flew tribal lands
- The Nation uses GPS to create data and place it on top of data from Sewall

Existing data sets include:

Basemap features:

Camp boundary

Roads
Landcover

Analysis layers include:

USGS data
Data from US Fish and Wildlife service

Currently unavailable but desired data sets include:

Water quality data
Fisheries data

1.1.2.3.2 Data Issues

Scale of Tribal data is generally 1:24,000 – data from USGS or other federal sources usually is 1:100,000 – problems with different scales for analysis

1.1.2.4 GIS Applications and Application Requirements

Planned future GIS activity and applications:

The Penobscot Indian Nation would like to use GIS for Forest Management and Natural Resource Protection activities.

1.1.3 Other Relevant Issues

The Nation is concerned about privacy issues and sharing their data with the public and with state agencies may be problematic.

1.1.4 Major Benefits and Cost Justification

The Nation sees the benefits of sharing data with communities or agencies that have adjacent land to the tribal lands. For example, data on water quality would be useful to manage natural resources on Penobscot Nation land that borders other communities or that might be impacted by other communities.